

Service Date: February 24, 1983

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER of the Application	)	
of MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE AND	)	
TELEGRAPH COMPANY, INC., GENERAL	)	UTILITY DIVISION
TELEPHONE OF THE NORTHWEST, INC.,	)	
and NORTHWESTERN TELEPHONE SYS-	)	
TEMS, INC. To Adopt Certain	)	DOCKET NO. 82.6.37
Depreciation Changes And Certain	)	
Changes Pertaining to Station	)	
Connections and Inside Wiring,	)	ORDER NO. 4951e
AND IN THE MATTER of the Commis-	)	
sion's Investigation Into Detar-	)	
iffing Customer Premises Equip-	)	
ment.	)	

APPEARANCES

FOR MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, INC.:

J. Walter, Hyer, III, General Attorney, Mountain Bell, 560 North Park, Room 408, P.O. Box 1716, Helena, Montana 59624

FOR GENERAL TELEPHONE ON THE NORTHWEST, INC.:

A. Timothy L. Williamson, Attorney at Law, 1800 Forty-First Street. Everett, Washington 98201

Lester H. Loble, II, Attorney at Law, Loble & Pauly, P.C., 833 North Last Chance Gulch, P.O. Box 176, Helena, Montana 59601

FOR NORTHWESTERN TELEPHONE SYSTEMS, INC.:

Dennis Lopach, Attorney at Law, Hjort, Lopach and Tippy, Arcade Building, P.O. Box 514, Helena, Montana 59624-0514

FOR THE MONTANA CONSUMER COUNSEL:

John C. Allen, Attorney at Law, Montana Consumer Counsel, 34 West Sixth Avenue, Helena Montana 59624

FOR TELEPHONE ANSWERING SERVICE INTERVENORS:

Alan Joscelyn, Attorney at Law, Gough, Shanahan, Johnson and  
Waterman, First National Bank Building, Helena, Montana 59601

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Calvin K. Simshaw, Staff Attorney, 1227 Eleventh Avenue, Helena,  
Montana 59620

BEFORE:

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Chairman  
JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner  
HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner  
CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On February 14, 1983, and February 16, 1983, Mountain Bell Telephone (MBT) and Northwestern Telephone Systems (NWTs) filed Motions for Reconsideration of Order Nos. 4951c and 4951d.

2. On February 22, 1983, the Commission denied the NWTs Motion and denied in part the MBT Motion.

3. The MBT Motion requests the Commission to reconsider the 12 month installment plan for the sale of single-line telephone instruments (Big Six). The previous Orders in this Docket contemplate a 12-month installment option which is to include interest at 14.5 percent. Upon reconsideration, the Commission finds that the financing charges associated with the 12-month installment shall be made an option to the utilities. Depending on their assessment of the administrative costs, the utilities can (1) apply interest charges of 14.5 percent to the 12 - month installment option or (2) offer the 12-month installment option with no interest charges.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company, Inc., General Telephone of the Northwest, Inc., and the Northwestern Telephone Systems, Inc.,

are corporations providing telephone and other communications services within the state of Montana and as such are "public utilities" within the meaning of MCA §69-3-101.

2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over these three companies' Montana operations pursuant to title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

### ORDER

1. Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company, Inc., Northwestern Telephone Systems, Inc., and General Telephone of the Northwest, Inc., are ORDERED to develop, submit, and/or implement CPE and/or wiring provisions as set forth herein.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 22nd day of February, 1983, by a 4--0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Chairman

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JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

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HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

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CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill  
Commission Secretary

( SEAL )

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38. 2. 4806, ARM.